

The GARZETTE

December 2000

Volume 10, Issue 11



In This Issue:

<i>President's Pen</i>	1
<i>Ham of the Year</i>	1,7
<i>Ballon Chasing</i>	.2
<i>Minutes</i>	4
<i>Happy Holidays</i>	5
<i>"Ticket"</i>	6
<i>Daughter's a Ham</i>	8
<i>Calendar</i>	12

The President's Pen

By David Adcock, KA4KKF

December 2000

December is upon us. Some people believe that this year is the actual y2k. Let's hope that it isn't.

The December meeting will be our annual Holiday Party. We had almost 100 present.

This was a different format than we have had the last 5 years. I think everyone had a great time. There was food and dancing and gifts for everyone. This gave every member a chance to unwind and socialize with other members.

The annual techfest will be upon us soon. I hope to see you there. See N1TOQ for details



about participating. If you want to see what it is all about, come and join us for the techfest. It's fun.

The January meeting will also be when we ask for volunteers to run as club officers. The election will be at the February meeting. The Executive meeting will be January 15th at 1900 hours at the Café Au

Lait. The Newsletter editor's job will be up this February. If you want to learn about how to publish the newsletter, give Rick KD4RFK a call. He can give you pointers on what it takes and how to make it an easy task.

I'd like to remind everyone to keep Howie, W1HG in your prayers.

I'm keeping it short this month so have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**David
KA4KKF**



Photo by Paul K4BET

Article, page 7

THE GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to rpatchin@msn.com. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is created on an Emachine -333 MHz computer using Microsoft Publisher 2000 and Microsoft Office 98.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Darren Pierce AG4BF does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. Barbara Moon, KF4UPN stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:
Acting Newsletter Editor:
Rick Patchin, KD4RFX
(770)945-2048
rpatchin@msn.com

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor



Adventures in Balloon Chasing

By Darren Pierce AG4BF

On Friday night November 18, I had the pleasure to enjoy another facet of amateur radio I participated in locating a balloon that was launched by NASA at the Marshall Space Center in Huntsville, Alabama. The payload carried a television transmitter that recorded the Leonid meteor showers and was broadcasted on the Internet at www.leonidslive.com. Eddie Foust WD4JEM and his wife Geri were gracious enough to let me tag along for the ride. This was a chance to enjoy two of my interests at the same time, Astronomy and Amateur Radio. I have been following the balloon launches for a couple of years, now but I never thought, "How do they recover the balloon?"

Being a relatively new ham I had heard about foxhunting, but I didn't pay much attention to it. Back in April 1999 I checked my e-mail and there was a message from the NASA reflector that I belong to and it had mentioned about the local hams that found the balloon from the launch the past week. I read it and it mentioned Ralph Fowler N4NEQ and Eddie Foust. I said to myself "Hey I know Eddie!" A couple of weeks later I talked with Eddie and I asked him if I could go on the next launch.

So back to the story, the balloon is equipped with a GPS receiver and APRS to give its location, altitude and ground speed, a clock oscillator at 28.8 MHz. and a strobe beacon for visual. Once the balloon is aloft you can track it by APRS or by the beacon on 28.8 MHz or its fifth harmonic 144.0 MHz. Unfortunately during this flight the winds were so strong that at one point the balloon was traveling at 150 mph! So the flight wasn't a very long one at all. The people at Marshall Space Center usually drop the payload before it crosses I-75 to keep it from drifting too far into the North Georgia Mountains. After the parachute is deployed it takes up to 20 minutes for it to drift back to Earth. While the balloon was adrift, we had time to watch a few meteors streak across the sky and attempt to watch the TV feed from the balloon but we didn't have very much time because of the speed it was traveling. We received word that the technicians in Huntsville were going to cut the balloon loose at 40,000 ft because of the winds aloft, and try to land it at the Dalton airport. Now the chase was on, after attempting to pick up the signal on 2 meters we received word that the balloon was on the ground north of Fort Mountain outside of Chatsworth. So, all the teams were heading to Fort Mountain, one team got stopped by the local police in Eton, GA., another ham ran out of gas and a team out of Chattanooga was first to the location of the balloon. The first position APRS indicated was north of a dirt road in the Cohutta National Forest. The team from Chattanooga hopped out of their truck and proceeded into the woods to the location indicated by APRS. Equipped with flashlights, GPS and a HT the team made one error, they did not landmark the position of their truck. A while later they called for someone to give them the position of their truck.

Continued page 3

Continued from page 2
Balloon Chasing

During this time Eddie, Geri and myself were tracking the 2 meter signal with a 3 element beam antenna. Utilizing the 144 MHz and the 28.8 MHz signals transmitted from the payload we had concluded that the signal was coming from the south side of the road not the north

By now the APRS location updated itself showing it south of the road. We now knew a rough location of where it was, so we started taking beam headings to triangulate its exact location. While we were doing this we noticed a lot of traffic on this mountain road. Come to find out it was opening day for deer season in the area. Ralph is trying to help the other guys get out of the woods and back to their truck. Remember it was 4 AM and the deer hunters were going into the woods. By now we had determined that the payload was behind a ridge south of the road. After Ralph helped the guys from Chattanooga get out of the woods safely, everybody decided that we should not go into the woods at 6:30 with deer hunters.

Continued page 9

FOR SALE: New, in unopened box Icom IC 706IIG \$825.00
 Bill, KN4N at kn4n@aol.com or 770-513-2566

FOR SALE: Available in late January or early February 2001 my hamshack in Lawrenceville, GA with 72ft motorized free standing crank up tower, 4 ele quad antenna. Hamshack is 9 years old with large back yard, and of course, the house comes with it. Price and inspection by appointment, or price by phone or email. Bill, kn4n@aol.com or 770-513-2566

GARS@eGroups.com

**Want the latest GARS
 Information?**

Want it TODAY?

**Join our electronic
 mailing list.**

It can be viewed in a Digest form, allowing you to read all the GARS messages as one email, not many. You will NOT get mail from anyone outside GARS or unsolicited messages (no SPAM) .

Go to
www.gars@egroups.com
and subscribe today!

STAY CONNECTED!



- **Call the nets**
- **Attend the Meetings**
- **Use the Email List**
- **Check the Website**
- **Www.gars.org**

GARS

Officers **President**

David Adcock, KA4KKF (770) 271-9398

Vice President

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Secretary

Howie Gould, W9HG

Treasurer

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Activities Manager

Darren Pierce AG4BF

Board Of Directors

Howie Gould, W9HG

Ike Chapman, K4WEC

David Adcock, KA4KKF

COMMITTEES

Membership Chairman

Dwight Evans, KG4FJF

Publicity Chairman

Open

Newsletter Editor

Open

Acting Newsletter Editor

Rick Patchin, KD4RFK, (770) 945-2048

License Trustee

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Repeater Chairman

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM

Tech Fest

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ (770)277-5175

TVI

Open

Contest Manager

Open

Net Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

CW Net Manager

Gene Gach, KF4NOG (770) 925-0186

Field Day

Bob Varone, W4ETN, (770) 978-3179

Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX (404)869-1347

Legal Counsel

Bill Brandon, WW4BB (770)554-9998

Apparel Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

Christmas Party Chairman

Open

Digital Radio Chairman

Open

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

Webmaster

Mike, K4MJK

♦♦♦

November Meeting Minutes

Rick Patchin KD4RFK

Officers Present

President – David Adcock, Vice President – Marty Fowler, Treasurer - Randy Drescher, Membership Chairman - Dwight Evans, and Activities Manager – Darin Pierce.

Meeting called to order by President Adcock at 7:35 PM Local time.

Introductions were made and accepted, President Adcock requested acceptance of October meeting minutes as published in the **Garzette**. Seconded and approved by the members.

Under Old Business

Treasurer - Randy Drescher reported a treasury balance of \$8014.06. This included the \$2,000 that will be given to Gwinnett ARES. Randy also reminded everyone that club equipment insurance coverage was renewed in December. Anyone having club equipment should check with Randy to be sure the equipment is listed.

President Adcock called for Committee reports:

Repeater – Eddie Foust - WD4JEM, December 2, 2000 has been set to do maintenance on the repeater site in Lawrenceville. Carpentry work is needed on building and some painting will be needed. Generator will be prepared for winter and some

antenna work will be done. The six meter repeater will also be checked out.

Eddie reported that the static on 440 repeater was due to noise at site and voting repeaters would help this problem. Time for voting repeaters to be ready was not known.

Tech Fest 2001-Barry Zell, N1TOQ., January 27, 2001, Saturday, Central Baptist Church, 11AM-3PM. Sign up sheets were passed around and Carol Gann provided publicity flyers given out to be placed in electronic shops.

Net Manager-Susan Swiderski, AF4FO – expressed appreciation for those helping with net control and those checking in.

Apparel Manager-Susan Swiderski, AF4FO – would like to see if someone would take this position for the new year. Has been chair person for 3 years.

Activity Chairman - Darin Pierce, AB4BF – requested help in discovering programs for meetings. Send ideas to AB4BF@aol.com

Membership Chairman – Dwight Evans KG4FJF, reported request for membership for 7 new members. Motion and second to receive.

Ham Fest Flee Market Chair-

man - Paul McInnis K4BET – Reported club received \$150.50 for sales at the ham fest. \$20.00 was used to pay for the table. \$130.50 was turned in to the club treasurer.

PROGRAM – Venture Crew

Victor Gann, W4VEG gave an interesting Power Points Demonstration of the Venture Crew sponsored by GARS. Venture Crew 73 is for men and women ages 14-21. Those older may serve as counselors. Recognition and awards were given to several GARS members who have supported Venture Crew events as well as Venture Crew members. Members were recognized and allowed to share their responsibility in the Crew.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM local

Respectfully Submitted
Rick Patchin, KD4RFK

RANDOM THOUGHTS ON THE GARS HAPPY HOLIDAY PARTY

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO

Well folks, if you missed the GARS Holiday party this year, you missed a terrific time. The turn-out was excellent, so good, in fact, that a couple of more tables had to be slung up to make enough room for all of us. The tables were covered festively with bright green and red cloths, and the places were set with cheery holiday plates and glasses, thanks to Sharon, KG4HKO and Carol, KG4ETR (who did a FABULOUS job!) The church had set up two beautifully decorated Christmas trees and Kevin, KF4HFN, did his usual job of

DJing par excellence to add to the party spirit. (Kevin even brought a stash of inflatable guitars, much to the children's delight, who had a marvelous time dancing around and playing "air guitar"...))

There was an ample supply of food, and the consensus of opinion was that there are some mighty fine cooks among the ranks of GARS. The turkeys that Marty, KE4MLH, had smoked, were delicious, and he did a fine job of carving them for our dining pleasure. The array of desserts was incredible... hard to decide which to eat (so some of us tried several!)

There were many fine door prizes, and the main prize, a 2 meter mobile radio, was won by Andrea, KG4IUM... can you believe it?! For those of you who don't remember, that lucky little girl won another radio just a couple of months ago in the drawing held for those who had helped at the dog show. There was

so much talk at the party about Andrea's good luck that I hear tell that some fellas are trying to get her to buy them lottery tickets. Now, Andrea, don't you let those guys corrupt you, Sweetheart. If you ever feel the need to buy a ticket or to learn the fine art of playing poker, though, you just come see your favorite aunt-y Susan, okay?

The annual Ham of the Year award went to Barry Zoll, N1TOQ. He was overwhelmed with gratitude...he even sent out a "thank you" on e-groups. I say we should thank HIM. No one was more deserving of this honor than Barry, and all of us at GARS are grateful for all of the hard work he's done, and for the way he's dispelled all of our previous stereotypes about Yankees... Seriously, Barry is a super friendly guy and we're all proud of him. Congratulations, Barry!

Now, for the reason I sat down here to write this article in the first place: Thank you, GARS, for your wonderful generosity in supporting our annual Holiday Can-a-thon. There were piles of canned goods and personal care products stacked up on a side table... honestly it made me proud to be associated with such a fine organization of caring people. In the past, Mike, K4HBI, would weigh the donations, and give a detailed report back to the club on what had been given. However, there was a change in plans this year. Rather than transport the donations back to Norcross in the bed of our pick-up truck in the rain, we left them at the church. Don, KA4SFG, told me that Central Baptist Church also has a food pantry for helping folks in need, so the decision was made to donate the goods to them. I didn't think you folks would care whether the folks you were helping lived in Norcross or in Lawrenceville... the thought was the same. So, again, thank all of you for your loving support. Y'all are terrific!!

The Story of my "Ticket"

By Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM

The Pre-ham days

My dad first introduced me to amateur radio when I was about eight years old. (He had just gotten his license.) He took me to one or two hamfests and Tech. Fests. At one of the hamfests, I decided to take a test just to see what it was like. I had my hopes up way too high that I would pass.

Well, as you could imagine, after a very small amount of studying, I failed. Not only did I fail, but it took me hours to take the test. After that, I still wanted to be able to talk on the radio, but I got burned out after that experience. So, for a few years, I still wanted my license, but never really did much about it.

Preparing for the test

Finally, once I got tired of everyone asking me when I was going to get my license, making five HF contacts at field day, and participating in ham events without being a ham, I decided to get my license. (The main thing that made me make up my mind was going to Field Day.) So, my dad got me a few study programs off the internet to choose from. I decided on a program called 5x5 because when I would miss a question, it would keep asking it to me until I got it right. Now that I think about it, there

might have been a better choice, because for the figure questions, it wouldn't show me the figures. I used that program to study. We also purchased the book "Now your talking" which gave me a backup. (When the power was out, in the car, etc.)

Taking the test

After 18 days of studying, I decided to try the test again. I really wasn't fully prepared, but I figured there were only a few categories I didn't know, and I knew that I could miss up to nine questions to pass. So, that day my dad and I woke up early in the morning, and he drove me all the way from our house in Lawrenceville to the location of the test in Marietta, even though there was a much closer test in a week or two. I took the test, didn't think I missed much, and passed missing only five questions! (I was 11 when I took the test, and I still am 11.)

The hardest part- (waiting for my call sign to arrive)

I was so excited!!! A few days after passing, I went from excited to disappointed. Why? Because I still had not gotten my call sign. I wanted so bad to be able to talk on the radio, I had passed the test, but that week or two waiting for my call sign

seemed like forever!!!! My dad and I called Hal Martin, KI4RD who is one of the VECs - either AC4JQ, N4VU, or WA4CQZ told us to call if we had any problems. He said that the FCC was backed up and told us to wait another week to see if the problem worked itself out. Then one morning I woke up, hadn't checked QRZ yet but noticed that there was a message on the phone. When I checked the message, it was KI4RD with my call sign!

Once I had my call

I called my dad on the phone at work and had my first QSO that day on his lunch break. As soon as I cleared, I turned my radio right off, which was a mistake because I missed two more contacts from two other people I knew. I had to wait a few days to talk to them. Shortly after I had my license, we took a trip to the beach. I was very excited to talk on the radio the week we were there, but I left my logbook at home that we had purchased earlier. So, I wrote down the call signs of the people I talked to but not much else. So, they got pretty empty QSL cards, but at least they got them.

Continued page 7

What else I have done

I have had many good times with ham radio! Working the dog show was fun because I got to direct traffic, and I won a new mobile rig out of it. I also went to the Shelby Hamfest and purchased a new Icom H.T. and some head phones with a mic. We camped there and had a great time looking at all the neat stuff! I also got to participate in a SET with ARES. When we got dispatched, I got to track our course on the map. I also heard a SET when we were out of town and checked into their net. I, of course went to the Alford Memorial Hamfest where I got some QSL card holders, a new antenna, an ARES badge, and a mental Christmas list! My radio has also kept me occupied in the car when I would have otherwise been bored.

Where I am now

I am obviously a member of GARS, or I probably wouldn't be writing this article. I have also joined ARES, Skywarn, the Alford Memorial club, and am a member of ARRL. I have finished my QSL cards that I am pretty proud of, and I have two and a quarter pages of my logbook filled up. Although I didn't know all the test questions, I am learning about them now by experiencing them. Right now I'm just a technician, but I plan to learn my code over winter break--It's just too much right now with school and homework. I look forward to many more exciting times in amateur radio. I want to eventually become an Extra.

73's

Andrea Hartlage
KG4IUM

HAM OF THE YEAR

BARRY ZOLL N1TOQ

At the annual holiday party, Barry Zoll was selected to be GARS Ham of the Year. Congratulations to Barry for a great year of giving to the club and ham radio. We wish you the best.

Comments from Barry:

I'd like to thank you for honoring me with this year's Ham of the Year Award. In this world of high speed living, there are very few organizations or activities where the human element is appreciated.

I became a licensed Ham in 1994 for the reason that I enjoy electronics and radio, however I never expected to find such a wonderful group of people who appreciate and respect each other's differences and treat everyone as a member of the family.

I look forward to many memorable years with GARS and will continue to work diligently to attract more people to our group and the hobby.

73, Barry Zoll, N1TOQ

Photo, page 1

How my 11 year old daughter became an Amateur Radio Operator!

By Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

Catching a fish

As an eight-year-old I remember going on a picnic with my family to our favorite lake. I was bound and determined to catch a fish. With a red wiggler dangling from my hook a determined young lad set off to land the big one.

I saw a fish hanging around the bank in about six inches of water right where I could tempt him. Without a doubt this was going to be easy! All I had to do was dangle that delicious looking worm an inch in front of that fish's mouth and I was sure he would not be able to resist a quick snack.

Well, I chased that fish up and down that bank for the entire day. Every time the worm got near him he would swim away a few feet. Bound and determined I repeated the experience like only a kid can do a million times. I finally caught a fish that day but I think it was because I made him so miserable he finally decide living was not worthwhile if a kid was going to chase him around with a hook and a worm for the rest of his life. When I first tried to get my daughter interested in getting her ticket I chased her with a wormy hook!

Baiting the hook

Later I learned that fish are territorial and if you drag something through their territory that they don't like they will attack it. This is how I approach amateur radio with non-hams. Whenever they are around I put down the mike, turn off the radio -- never dangle the slimy worm in front of their face!

Boy does this get to them without them ever knowing it! Pretty soon they start asking all kinds of questions -- just one or two at a time -- seemingly innocent. It is all I can do not to give them a whole long dissertation to answer their one simple little question. But that is the secret -- ALWAYS leave them wanting more.

Getting them to bite

At about eight years of age, my oldest daughter Andrea was upset that she couldn't talk to dad on the radio. That is when I knew it was time to get a couple of Family Radio Service (FRS) radios that she and her younger sister Laura could use to 'play radio' like Dad.

We have great fun with them. Both girls made up calls signs with my prefix KF4 and their own initials. Then we would have QSO's using amateur speak.

I was able to teach them all about how far to hold the mic away and why they could or could not hear one another, etc. The whole time I coached them in FCC Part 97 and good amateur practices.

It would be just one little lesson at a time -- remember ALWAYS leave them wanting more. What they seemed to thrive on was always learning something new to add to their imitation of 'playing radio' like Dad. They found that they could play hide and go seek and that with a radio they could talk to each other without giving away their hiding spot. They take the radio into the neighborhood or around the house and still keep in touch with Dad and each other.

Reeling them in

Along the way I would let them know that I was going to do something fun in radio like attending a GARS picnic and sometimes they would want to go along. The burden was on me to make sure that they had a GREAT time and that I did not let myself geek out at the expense of them having a miserable time. GARS members sure do make visitors feel very welcome and we owe a great deal of our success with Andrea, KG4IUM to the whole GARS family!

One of these fun times that tempted Andrea was the GARS 2000 Field Day. Andrea really wanted to see what all the fuss was about. Our family

was invited to five different parties that day and we just were not sure how we could make field day. Andrea and I dropped her sister Laura off at the skating rink for a birthday party and we snuck over to the park and saw an ant-hill of field day setting up. Boy she didn't want to leave!

We stole away again later in the day and she got to meet the Venture Crew 73. Andrea participated in the scavenger hunt and learned a bunch about ham radio and more importantly met a whole bunch of neat operators. Boy did she think that was wonderful! (Our thanks to the whole Venture Crew!) But we had to leave again before her appetite was quenched. She would not leave me alone all day about how we could get back to field day.

She wanted to see contacts made, log, hear CW and to holler CQ, CQ, CQ! Of course she wanted to taste the midnight feast! So we finally finished the day's family obligations and my wife Lisa thought I was crazy when we left the house at 10:00 PM to head back to field day for the third time.

That night Andrea swallowed the hook, line, sinker, and part of the boat. She logged for about 2 hours on 10 meters and the band started dying after midnight. I had helped her log but since there were only two sets of headphones I never heard a single contact.

I forget who was operating but the band was dead and they asked if I wanted to give them a break. So I took over the rig with Andrea helping me. Since Andrea was the most experienced of the two of us and since I was trying to hook her into the hobby I asked if she wanted to call CQ. Well she almost pulled the pole out of my hand when she struck at the hook!

Andrea started calling CQ and a station came back. I told her that it wasn't a good signal and that she should try another one. She looked at me like I was crazy and informed me

that it was as good as they get and she went and made her first of five contacts of the night. To this day I still have never made a single HF contact -- but I am proud that my harmonic has!

Eighteen days later Andrea took here no-code technician exam and became KG4IUM!

Getting them into the boat

Now she is hooked and I am working at getting her in the boat. I didn't want her to get her license and move on to some new challenge and drop her ticket. So I pulled the net up under her and am gently lifting her into the boat.

We started doing things together as licensed amateurs. We helped at the dog show and I noticed that my best HT (a Yaesu FT-727) was almost as big as she was and it made her lean to one side. That is when we planned a trip to Shelby and found her the radio she wanted. I knew she needed five watts and she knew she needed something little and light.

We had planned to buy a new mobile for me and a HT for her. Well the combination of small and five watts for her took her cost way over our budget. I decided I could do without a new mobile and we bought an ICOM T81A that is just perfect for a small fry.

I guess being unselfish paid off. We wanted to get a new mobile for me so Andrea could have my old mobile in her mom's minivan. Ike Chapman, K4WEC asked Andrea to draw a ticket out of the hat for an Alinco 1500 as the grand prize for volunteers that worked the dog show. Well, Andrea picked her own name -- everyone let her leave the building with it to boot! I traded Andrea my dual band mobile for her new 2 meter Alinco and then I added a pile of cash and traded with Mark Holms, KJ4VO at HRO for an Alinco 605 dual bander for my truck. Now Andrea and I are able to be dueling dual band mobiles together!

The other part about getting a young harmonic into the boat is to be sure to supervise. Andrea is not allowed to use her radio without supervision. Even though the FCC says she can use the radio anytime she wants,

Mom and Dad's Part 1 states that she always needs to have one of us around. My first QSO on the GARS repeater attracted another ham that conducted an inquisition that made me feel uncomfortable and may be why I am more of a lurker than a talker. My thanks to Johnny Fearon, W4WKP for sensing my lack of comfort and jumping in to change the tone of the conversation! Not wanting Andrea to have a similar experience she always has one of us to assist her if she needs a second opinion on the direction the conversation should take. We also made sure that she had all of her operating procedures down cold before she could operate without another ham around to protect her mother from being technically overwhelmed.

This article is too long already but I would love to share the bonding and growth experience Andrea and I enjoy from working the hobby together. Perhaps another article in the future!

73's to all and keep everyone you meet wanting to learn more -- never chase them away with a slimy, wormy hook!

Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

Holiday Party Photos

Click on this URL to go & view the pix:

<http://albums.photopoint.com/j/ViewPhoto?>

Best regards, seasons greetings
& 73,

Paul - K4BET

Continued from page 3

Balloon Chasing

We decided to get some breakfast and come back later in the morning. At this time a local hunter pulled up where we were located and we asked him how long was he going to be in the woods so we wouldn't disturb his hunting. He said that he planned to be in the woods all day and he wasn't hunting on the north side of the road because that was where all the other hunters were hunting. Come to find out the payload was located on private land not on the Wildlife Management Area side of the road. We explained to him that there was a payload launched by NASA in the area he was hunting. We asked him if he wouldn't mind escorting us back to the payload. We proceeded back into the woods to search for the payload. After going through a creek and up the ridge Eddie heard the sonalert beeping. Using the beam antenna Eddie pointed in the direction of the signal. Geri, Kari, Tom KD4DKW and myself headed in the direction. Kari was the first to see the strobe of the payload up in a tree, followed by Geri. I found the payload on the ground almost exactly where Eddie predicted it would be. The web site where you can view the pictures and tracking map is www.bsr.org.

Darren Pierce AG4BF

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.
Talk In 145.410(-)

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Jefferson Civic Center
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from
Jefferson
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Shoney's Restaurant
Holcomb Bridge Road at Grimes Bridge Road
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road
Lilburn
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
Dunwoody
Meeting is at 10:00 AM
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

Third THURSDAY



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church
Gwinnett Drive
Lawrenceville
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

First Sunday

WCARS VEC
2:00 PM
(Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

First Saturday

9:00AM
Clayton County Emergency
Management Building
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday

CA VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Hal Martin, K14RD
(770)978-9160

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ
(770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770)942-6466.

Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC
7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road
Lilburn
Headphones Provided!
Howie Gould, W9HG
(770)921-8362



READY FOR A MOVE?

For a Great Experience with a
Professional,
Service-Oriented Realtor...

CALL ME!

SHARON ADCOCK, GRI

- Associate Broker
- Life Member Million Dollar Club
- Top 3% Company Sales Production
- Executive Sales Associate
- Accredited Relocation Counselor
- **READY TO GO TO WORK FOR YOU!**



BUCKHEAD
BROKERS
3850 Pleasant Hill Rd.
Duluth, GA 30096



Sharon.Adcock@realtor.com
(Voice Mail) 770-495-3244
(Pager) 404-776-2609
(Fax) 770-623-1919



GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

70 Cm Repeater
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville
Remote Receive Sites
Under construction
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR/Relay



12 Store Buying Power!

HAM RADIO OUTLET

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

ATLANTA, GA
8375 Buford Hwy., 30340
(770) 263-1700
(800) 484-7872
Phil W4GRD, Manager
Doraville, 1 mi. NW of I-285

YAESU

FT-840
• 100W • 12V DC • DCS
• Gas. Gas. Rx. 100 mHz.
• Optional Ext. Ant. - Tunes Available
Call Now For Our Low Pricing!

FT-847
Ultimate Base Station, HT, VHF, UHF
• 100W HF/5W, 50W VHF/UHF
• DSP • Full Duplex Cross-Band
• 1200/9600 Baud Packet Ready
Call For Low Price!

FT-100MP HT Transceiver
• Enhanced Digital Signal Processing
• DMR II
• Color SSB Meter built-in
• 100W Power supply built-in
Call Now For Low Pricing!

VX-1R
80440 Sub-Mini HT
• 20 Memory Channels
• 5W Output
• Features 16-Channel
• Also AM SSB
(Call Band Blocked)
• Lithium Ion Battery
Call Now For Your Low Price!

FT-920 HF/VHF Transceiver
• 100W 150-540, 100W
• Built-in 100W 10W Memory Keyer
• DSP Auto Notch • 99 Memories
• Computer controlled, CAT System
Call For Low Pricing!

FT-100 HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver
• Compact Transceiver with built-in first panel
• Rx 100W to 500W (call blocked)
• Tx 100W 100W, 50W 2M, 25W 70CM
• Built-in DSP Vocoder, CW Keyer
• 201 Memories
Call Now For Low Pricing!

FT-50RD
2W/400mhz Compact HT
• DVS, Decode, Paging Built-in
• Alpha numeric display
• Noise Band receiver
• Battery Saver
• 110 Memories
• 800 Spk.
• 150W scanning
Call For Your Low Pricing!

FT-8100R 2W/400mhz HT
• Ultra Compact • 10W/50W 2m/400
• 110 Memories • Wide Band RX
• Rack Mt. • Remote control panel w/ant. • 15K 2100
Call Now For Special Pricing

ALSO IN STOCK:
• 100W 100W
• 100W 100W
• 100W 100W
• 100W 100W
• 100W 100W

Look for the
HRO Home Page
on the
World Wide Web
<http://www.hamradio.com>

COAST TO COAST
FREE SHIPPING
UPS • Most Home Box Office
Rapid Delivers From
The Store Nearest To You!

Industrial Control Systems ▲ Sales ▲ Service

Baker
TECHNICAL SERVICES
A Division of J M Baker Company Inc.

James M. Baker

2875 N. Berkeley Lake Rd.
Suite 17
Duluth, GA 30096

Phone: (770) 623-5535
Fax: (770) 497-0479

GWINNETT COLLISION CENTER, INC.

305 Sharon Ind. Way
Suwanee, Georgia 30024
945-0161

Import and Domestic
Unibody and Frame Repair ws

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Mark Justice

**GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048

Receive the **Garzette** via email...
contact Dwight Evans, KG4FJF at
kg4fjf@arrl.com



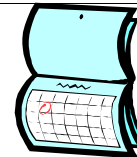
Giving Amateur Radio Spirit!



Upcoming Events

Committee Chairs:

Let's fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!



January 2001

15th Executive committee
18th GARS Club Meeting
27th Tech Fest

February 2001

Executive committee
15th GARS Club Meeting

March 2001

Executive committee
22nd GARS Club Meeting

April 2001

Executive committee
19th GARS Club Meeting

May 2001

Executive committee
17th GARS Club Meeting

June 2001

Executive committee
21st GARS Club Meeting
29th-30th FIELD DAY

July 2001

Executive committee
19th GARS Club Meeting

Meeting Time
&
Location

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Central Baptist Church,
Gwinnett Drive,
Lawrenceville

Talk in 147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

